

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please delete the original FIGS. 1 to 4 and substitute the new FIGS. 1 to 4 that are submitted herewith.

REMARKS

The indication of allowable subject matter with respect to Claims 2 to 11 is acknowledged with appreciation.

For the reasons indicated hereafter all of the presently solicited claims are urged to be in condition for allowance.

As requested by the Examiner, new FIGS. 1 to 4 are submitted herewith which bear the indication of "PRIOR ART".

Claims 6, and 8 to 11 which previously were indicated to be directed to allowable subject matter have been amended to improve their form and to render them more consistent with Applicants' Specification.

The continued rejection of presently solicited independent Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) over the different teachings of International Publication No. WO 01/66475 to Kang would be inappropriate. By amendment reference to the pre-anoxic tank now is presented in all claims. This instant invention provides the advantage of suppressing inhibiting actions by nitrate nitrogen in the anaerobic tank so that the wastewater introduced to the anaerobic tank is maintained under completely anaerobic conditions thereby subsequently improving organic matter removal in the anoxic tank. The withdrawal of this sole rejection is urged to be in order and respectfully is requested.

If there is any remaining point that requires clarification prior to the full allowance of the Application, the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the matter can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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